

## Message Text

PAGE 01 SAIGON 00342 100645Z

16  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W  
----- 115350  
R 100600Z JAN 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1753

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 0342

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB, EA, ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PBOR, VS  
SUBJ: AIR SERVICES CONTRACT

REF: STATE 002872

1. IT HAS BEEN A RATHER FULL WEEK AND I MAY NOT GET BACK TO PRIME MINISTER UNTIL AFTER DEPARTURE OF SENATOR NUNN.
2. FOR THE RECORD, YOUR PARA 3IS, I THINK, JUMPING TO A COMPLETELY UNWARRANTED CONCLUSION THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTION, WHICH ARRIVAL OF SENATORIAL PARTY PREVENTED FOLLOWING UP, WAS INTENDED AS A LOW BLOW OR ANY KIND OF A SLUR ABOUT DAN PARKER, FOR WHOM PRIME MINISTER HAS HIGH ADMIRATION. HE HAS OFTEN SPOKEN ADMIRINGLY OF HIS MULTI-TALENTED CAREER AND HIS OBVIOUS PROFICIENCY AS A HELICOPTER PILOT WHEN HE TOOK OVER THE CONTROLS ON HIS VISIT TO VIET-NAM. KNOWING OF PARKER'S INTEREST IN ANTIQUE CARS, PRIME MINISTER TOLD ME SOME TIME AGO HE THOUGHT HE HAD LOCATED A 1936 ROLLS IN DA NANG BUT IT TURNED OUT TO HAVE BEEN SO DAMAGED AND CORRODED IT HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN SCRAP SHIPMENT TO JAPAN.
3. QUESTION OF WHETHER COMPANY OWNED BY PARKER WOULD BID ON NEW CONTRACT IS MATTECONFIDENTIAL

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HERE AND IN WASHINGTON. IT WAS MENTIONED LAST BY NORTHRUP REP PASSING THROUGH. MY OWN COMPLETE AND TOTAL CONFIDENCE IN DAN PARKER'S INTEGRITY IS SO COMPLETE, I NEVER BOTHERED TO ASK HIM THE REASON HE DISQUALIFIED HIMSELF FROM ANY DECISION ROLE IN AIR SERVICES CONTRACT. I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHETHER HE HAS ANY INTEREST

WHATEVER IN ANY POTENTIAL BIDDER.

4. BUT THE POINT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTION, I THINK, AND WILL CONFIRM WHEN I EXPLORE THIS WITH HIM, WAS THAT IF SUCH RUMORS BECAME A PART OF DEBATE IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IT WOULD, RATHER OBVIOUSLY, SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE FOR EITHER GOVERNMENT, AID OR PARKER. THEREFORE, IF THE ANSWER TO HIS QUESTION WAS AFFIRMATIVE, IT WAS A MATTER WHICH WOULD CERTAINLY BE OF CONCERN TO HIM, IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN TO KNOW HOW TO HANDLE THE DEBATE IN THE ASSEMBLY IF WE WOULD PERSIST IN GOING FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING. SINCE YOUR REPLY INDICATES THIS IS STILL YOUR HOPE, PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER TO PROVIDE ME WITH AN ACCURATE ANSWER FOR THE QUESTION.

5. INCIDENTALLY, BECAUSE THE MATTER WAS RATHER SENSITIVE, REFTEL WAS SLUGGED WITH EXDIS AND STADIS.

6. NEW SUBJECT: I UNDERSTAND YOU CAME ON LIKE GANGBUSTERS IN OUR SUPPORT IN A MEETING ON TUESDAY, FOR WHICH ALL OF US HERE ARE GRATEFUL.  
MARTIN

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, SERVICE CONTRACTS, CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS (BID)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS ONLY  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PBOR, VS, (PARKER, DAN)  
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